

Board of Directors' Meeting

October 9, 2024

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A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Washington Township Health Care District was held on Wednesday, October 9, 2024 in the Board Room at 2000 Mowry Avenue, Fremont and Zoom access was provided. Director Eapen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led those in attendance of the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

*CALL TO ORDER*

*PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE*

Roll call was taken: Directors present: Jacob Eapen, MD; Michael Wallace; William Nicholson, MD; Jeannie Yee; Bernard Stewart, DDS

*ROLL CALL*

Also present: Kimberly Hartz; Thomas McDonagh; Larry LaBossiere; Terri Hunter; Tina Nunez; Paul Kozachenko; Angus Cochran; Jerri Randrup; Tammi Tyson; Addie Hofmann; Dianne Martin, MD; Harsh Agrawal, MD; Brian Smith, MD; Mary Bowron; Maxime Rooney; Lynda Antes; Mark Saleh, MD; Lilly Stern; Jason Krupp, MD; Brandon Scholl; Sheela Vijay; Cassidy Agustin; Felipe Villanueva; Roan Bachelder; Walter Choto; Melissa Garcia; John Zubiena; Donald Pipkin; John Lee; Fred Pottschmidt; Marcus Watkins; Dan Nardoni; Semone Clark; Laura Anning; Kel Kanady; Sri Boddu; Cheryl Renaud; Shirley Ehrlich

Director Eapen welcomed any members of the general public to the meeting.

*OPENING REMARKS*

Director Eapen noted that Public Notice for this meeting, including Zoom information, was posted appropriately on our website. This meeting was recorded for broadcast at a later date.

There were no Oral Communications.

*COMMUNICATIONS:  
ORAL*

There were no Written Communications.

*COMMUNICATIONS:  
WRITTEN*

Director Eapen presented the Consent Calendar for consideration:

*CONSENT CALENDAR*

A. Consideration of Minutes of the Regular Meetings of the District Board: September 11, 16, 23 & 25, 2024

B. Consideration of Purchase of Belmont Rapid Infuser

C. Consideration of Enterprise Storage Upgrade

Director Wallace moved that the Board of Directors approve the Consent Calendar, Items A-C. Director Nicholson seconded the motion.

Roll call was taken:

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Jacob Eapen, MD – aye  
Michael Wallace – aye  
William Nicholson, MD – aye  
Jeannie Yee – aye  
Bernard Stewart, DDS – aye

Motion Approved.

Kimberly Hartz, Chief Executive Officer, introduced Dr. Harsh Agrawal, Medical Director of the Structural Heart Program who provided a presentation regarding the Watchman Device with Lynda Antes, Director, Cardiac and Vascular Surgery Program.

*PRESENTATION:  
STRUCTURAL HEART  
PROGRAM:  
WATCHMAN DEVICE*

Dr. Agrawal began his presentation by explaining the Watchman Device and how it can reduce the risk of stroke in patients. The Watchman Device is a small implant that prevents blood clots forming in the left atrial appendage of the heart.

Atrial Fibrillation (AFib) is an irregular heartbeat that affects the heart's ability to pump regularly which can increase the risk of stroke. The Watchman Device is indicated for patients for non-valvular atrial fibrillation who are at increased risk of stroke and recommended for anticoagulation therapy. Patients are to be deemed suitable for Coumadin and have an appropriate rationale to seek a non-pharmacologic alternative to oral anti-coagulants, such as falls, bleeding, non-compliance and playing risky sports. The insertion of this device is performed in the Cath Lab utilizing Xray and Ultrasound.

The benefits of the Watchman Device include life long stroke reduction, reduction in long term pharmaceutical costs and improved quality of life without requiring blood thinning medication or frequent blood tests. There are about 10 Watchman Programs in the Bay Area and surrounding communities. Washington Hospital has the only program in Southern Alameda County.

Kimberly Hartz, Chief Executive Officer, introduced Angus Cochran, Chief Community Support Services. Angus reported on Washington Hospital's participation in the 2024 Junior Livestock Auction held at the Alameda County Fairgrounds each year. Washington Hospital began this project with Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty and carries on the tradition with Alameda County Supervisor David Haubert. Washington Hospital is the number one bidder at the auction each year. This year 15 hogs, 4 lambs, and portions of 2 steers were purchased. Angus introduced local exhibitors: Lily Stern, Roan Bachelder and Adalyn Hofmann. Lily, Roan and Adalyn each shared their experiences in caring for these animals, along with improving their life skills, including time management, budgeting and setting goals and sportsmanship.

*PRESENTATION:  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
JUNIOR LIVESTOCK  
PROGRAM*

The meat from the purchase feeds the physicians, staff, visitors and volunteers in the café and patients on the inpatient units.

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Dr. Mark Saleh, Chief of Medical Staff, reported that there are 658 Medical Staff members, including 347 active members. The Quarterly Medical Staff Luncheon took place on September 27 and was well attended. Dr. Saleh stated that the Medical Staff is looking forward to raising funds at the Top Hat event on Saturday, October 12, 2024.

*MEDICAL STAFF  
REPORT*

Sheela Vijay, Service League President, stated that for the month of September, 226 Service League volunteers contributed a total of 1,943 hours.

*SERVICE LEAGUE  
REPORT*

Sheela and Evangeline Imana-Iyemura, Director of Volunteer Services, attended the California Association of Hospitals and Health Systems (CAHHS) meeting on September 14 and 15 in San Diego. Sheela reported that it was an informative experience that provided a wealth of ideas to improve services. Evangeline and Sheela participated in a panel discussion focused on the reopening and success of the Gift Shop post Covid-19 Pandemic, where they discussed strategies and challenges.

Washington Hospital was a supporter of New Haven Schools Foundation's annual fundraiser "Mutt Strut" on Saturday, September 28, 2024. The Service League participated to help promote the WOOF Dog Therapy Volunteer Program. Ember, one of Washington Hospital's Woof Therapy Dogs, along with her handler, Theresa Peters, participated in this event. Ember won the Hot Dog Eating Contest and Best Dressed Competition.

The Service League is still exploring ways to better engage with high school volunteers, including the possibility of opening the Gift Shop in the evenings starting in November, from 4:30pm to 7:30pm, 7 days a week, to increase overall volunteer opportunities.

Kimberly Hartz, Chief Executive Officer, introduced Dr. Dianne Martin, Infection Prevention Consultant, who presented a Respiratory Season Update for 2024-2025. Dr. Martin discussed the anticipated co-circulation of influenza, Covid-19, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and the importance of vaccination as the primary strategy to reduce severity. The updated influenza vaccine will protect against three viruses: Influenza A (H1N1, H3N2) and Influenza B (Victoria lineage) virus. The updated Covid-19 vaccine covers the most prevalent variants circulating this season, primarily variants of Omicron, which have undergone changes since last year. The RSV vaccine composition has not changed. It is never too late to get the vaccines.

*QUALITY REPORT:  
2024-2024  
RESPIRATORY  
SEASON UPDATE*

Washington Hospital has implemented measures to minimize transmission of respiratory illness. As of November 1, 2024, mandated universal masking applies to all inpatient care areas within the main hospital building, including the Morris Hyman Pavilion, which encompasses the Emergency Department, Perioperative Services, and high-risk outpatient areas such as the Infusion Center, UCSF-Washington Cancer Center, Radiation Oncology Clinic (ROC) and Washington

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Township Medical Foundation Pediatrics, as per Alameda County Public Health Department.

Tom McDonagh, Vice President & Chief Financial Officer, presented the Finance Report for August 2024. The average daily inpatient census was 146.6 with discharges of 968 resulting in 4,545 patient days. Outpatient observation equivalent days were 370. The average length of stay was 4.93 days. The case mix index was 1.684. Deliveries were 149. Surgical cases were 544. The Outpatient visits were 9,031. Emergency visits were 5,095. Cath Lab cases were 199. Joint Replacement cases were 207. Neurosurgical cases were 22. Cardiac Surgical cases were 18. Total FTEs were 1,640.2. FTEs per adjusted occupied bed was 6.34. Overall, the net income for August was \$3,351,000.

*FINANCE REPORT*

Kimberly Hartz, Chief Executive Officer, presented the Hospital Operations Report for September 2024. Patient gross revenue of 198.9 million for September was unfavorable to budget of \$216.1 million (7.9%), and it was higher than September 2023 by \$8.2 million (4.3%).

*HOSPITAL  
OPERATIONS REPORT*

Trauma Cases of 147 for September was favorable to the budget of 105 by 42 (40.0%). Trauma gross revenue of \$12.8 million for September was unfavorable to the budget of \$13.3 million by \$485K (3.6%).

The Average Length of Stay was 4.99. The Average Daily Inpatient Census was 150.4 and was unfavorable to budget of 173.4 by 23.0 (13.3%). There were 886 Discharges that was unfavorable to budget of 994 (10.9%).

There were 4,581 patient days and was unfavorable to budget of 5,023 by 622 days (12.0%). There were 479 Surgical Cases and 183 Cath Lab cases at the Hospital.

Deliveries were 141. Non-Emergency Outpatient visits were 8,377. Emergency Room visits were 4,872. Total Government Sponsored Preliminary Payor Mix was 73.1%, against the budget of 74.5%. Total FTEs per Adjusted Occupied Bed were 6.08.

There were \$261K in charity care adjustments in September 2024.

October Employee of the Month is Roy Coloma, Staff Nurse III, PICC.

*EMPLOYEE OF THE  
MONTH*

Past Health Promotions & Community Outreach Events:

*HOSPITAL CALENDAR*

- September 12: Polly's Heart Health Fair – Ruggieri Senior Center, Union City
- September 13: Senator Aisha Wahab's Emergency Preparedness Fair – Newark Police Department
- September 16: American Association of University Women's (AAUW) One Book, One Community Opioid Discussion – Anderson Auditorium

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- September 17: Stop the Bleed Training – Washington West
- September 18: Falls Prevention – Acacia Creek
- September 20: WHHS Update Presentation – Mission San Jose Rotary Club
- September 20: Union City Family Center Toddler to Career Fair – Barnard White Middle School, Union City
- September 21-22: Newark Days Parade and Community Resource Faire – Newark Community Center
- September 22: Fremont Disability Fair – Fremont Downtown Event Center
- September 25: Sepsis: What Is It and How Can We Increase Awareness – Facebook Live & YouTube
- September 26: East Bay Trauma Symposium – Cal State East Bay, Hayward
- September 28: New Haven Schools Foundation Mutt Strutt – Masonic Home, Union City
- September 28: HERS Run/Walk/Yoga - Quarry Lakes, Fremont
- October 1: On-site Flu Shots – Fremont Bank
- October 3: Economic Development Roundtable with County Supervisor David Haubert
- October 5: Fremont Police Department Safety Fair – Fremont Police Department
- October 5: Science in the Park – Cal State East Bay – Hayward
- October 5: WTMF Annual Family Picnic – Quarry Lakes Regional Park
- October 5: NAMI Walks – Fremont Central Park
- October 7: Newark Unified School District Child Nutrition In-service Day – Newark Unified School District Office
- October 8: Mindfulness Meditation – Carlton Senior Living Community
- October 9: Breast Cancer Surgery: What Are the Options? – Facebook Live & YouTube

Upcoming Health Promotions & Community Outreach Events:

- October 12: 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Top Hat Gala: An Evening in Italia – Washington West Tent
- October 16: City of Fremont Wellness Expo – Age Well Center, Lake Elizabeth
- October 17: 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Think Pink! Breast Cancer Awareness Event – Washington West Tent
- October 18-19: Civil Air Patrol California State Wing Conference – DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton, San Jose
- October 21-22: 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Totally Trauma Conference – Hyatt Regency, Monterey
- October 23: Breast Cancer Prevention, Early Detection, and Treatment – ThermoFisher, Fremont
- October 23: Treating Carotid and Aortic Disease Through Endovascular Innovation – Facebook Live & YouTube
- October 26: Filipino Heritage Event – Eastern San Jose
- October 26: Newark Dia de Los Muertos – Magnolia Plaza, Newark

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- October 27: Arunay Foundation Walkathon – Quarry Lakes Regional Park
- October 29: Low Back Pain for Seniors: What Should I Know and When Should I See a Surgeon? – Acacia Creek
- November 6: Falls: Prevention and Recovery – Facebook Live & YouTube

The Foundation hosts the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Top Hat Gala on Saturday, October 12, 2024. 650 guests are expected at this elegant Evening in Italia. Funds raised through the event will support the purchase of a wide-bore MRI for the Hospital.

The next quarterly meeting of the Foundation Board will take place on Tuesday, October 29, 2024.

The Foundation will hold its annual Holiday Tree Lighting at Washington West on December 5, 2024 at 5 pm, in the Anderson Auditoriums.

Director Wallace moved that the Board of the Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to proceed with awarding the contract to James R. Griffin and amend the budget for the MRI Mobile Trailer Construction Project by \$101,645.00, for a revised budget amount of \$601,645.00. Director Nicholson seconded the motion.

*ACTION ITEMS:  
CONSIDERATION OF  
CONSTRUCTION FOR  
THE MOBILE MRI  
PROJECT*

Roll call was taken:

Jacob Eapen, MD – aye  
Michael Wallace – aye  
William Nicholson, MD – aye  
Jeannie Yee – aye  
Bernard Stewart, DDS – aye

Motion approved.

Director Wallace moved that the Board of the Directors approve the appointment of Carol Dutra-Vernaci to fill the vacant position on the Washington Township Hospital Development Corporation Board of Directors for the remainder of the 2024 calendar year. Director Yee seconded the motion.

*CONSIDERATION OF  
APPOINTMENT TO  
DEVCO BOARD:  
CAROL DUTRA-  
VERNACI*

Roll call was taken:

Jacob Eapen, MD – aye  
Michael Wallace – aye  
William Nicholson, MD – aye  
Jeannie Yee – aye  
Bernard Stewart, DDS – aye

Motion approved.

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There were no Announcements.

*ANNOUNCEMENTS*

There being no further business, Director Eapen adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

*ADJOURNMENT*

DocuSigned by:

*Jacob Eapen, MD*

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Jacob Eapen, MD  
President

DocuSigned by:

*Bernard Stewart, DDS*

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Bernard Stewart, DDS  
Secretary